— District level/Block level awareness cum training programmes for financial institutions and other agencies in various implementing States/UTs.

Watershed programme in Maharashtra

605. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked for Maharashtra during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 under the Watershed Development Fund;

(b) the districts of Maharashtra covered by this scheme; and

(c) the achievements of Maharashtra Government in implementing Watershed Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE: (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A sum of Rs. 20.00 crore has been allocated for Maharashtra state during the year 2000-2001 by the Central Steering Committee of Watershed Development Fund. An additonal allocation of 15.00 crores has been made during the year 2001-02 due to further request of Maharashtra. Therefore, a total allocation of 35.00 crores is available for utilisation over a period of 4-5 years.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra has identified the following districts under the scheme (1) Ahmedabad (2) Beed (3) Nanded (4) Nandurbar (5) Osmanabad (6) Thane (7) Wardha and (8) Yuvatmal.

(c) Under Watershed Development Fund, seven watershed projects have been sanctioned for capacity building phase to cover an area of 689 hac. at a cost of Rs. 33.51 lakhs. Besides the above, integrated Watershed Development Programme was initiated in Maharashtra state in 17,883 micro watershed from state funds since 1992, out of which 7000 micro watersheds have been completed. In addition, a total of 3245 micro watersheds under Drought Prone Areas Programme and 1687 under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas and 270 micro watersheds under Integrated Wasteland Development Projects are being developed.